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VOLUME XIX.

NUMBER VI.

THE  
**AFRICAN REPOSITORY,**  
AND  
**COLONIAL JOURNAL.**

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**JUNE, 1843.**

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PUBLISHED MONTHLY,

BY THE AMERICAN COLONIZATION SOCIETY, AT \$1 50 PER YEAR IN  
ADVANCE, WHEN SENT BY MAIL, OR \$2 IF NOT PAID TILL  
AFTER THE EXPIRATION OF SIX MONTHS, OR  
WHEN DELIVERED TO SUBSCRIBERS  
IN CITIES.

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WASHINGTON:  
• ALEXANDER AND BARNARD, PRINTERS.  
SEVENTEENTH STREET.

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*Two sheets.—Postage, if not over 100 miles, 3 cents; any greater distance, 5 cents.*

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THE  
**AFRICAN REPOSITORY,**  
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WASHINGTON, JUNE, 1843.

[ NO. 6.

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THINGS TO BE CONSIDERED BY EVERY FRIEND OF AFRICAN  
COLONIZATION.

THE ministers of Christ of every denomination are invited to consider the wide and effectual entrance now open, through the colonies of Liberia, to numerous and populous African tribes and nations, hitherto unknown to us, except by the victims annually supplied to the slave-trade. These people are now in friendly communication with the inhabitants of Liberia; many voluntarily submit to the benign authority of the colonial laws, have entered into treaty stipulations for the suppression of the trade in slaves, and for the encouragement of lawful commerce, and importunately solicit the benefits of education, more especially the knowledge which maketh wise unto salvation. The free and christian commonwealth of Liberia is already powerful in its intellectual and moral influence on Africa. As a model for society, whether we regard its government, laws, or general policy towards the native population, it has few defects; and it is clearly in the power of American christians so to sustain and build up this commonwealth, as to render it a mighty agency for establishing and extending on that continent civilization, liberty and christianity. Why then should not the American Colonization Society receive the support of every clergyman and every church or congregation of the Union? By their circular letter, the Executive Committee submit to ministers of every name some of the reasons for a special and united effort by all the friends of humanity and the Redeemer, on the approaching anniversary of our national independence, or on some Sabbath near that day. Will this special and united effort be made? The society needs only increased and adequate pecuniary resources. *Will the ministers and churches of all denominations in the*

*twenty-six States of the Union give as much to this enterprize, bearing directly and most efficiently upon the redemption of one quarter of the earth from the bondage and misery of ages, as those of any one of the leading denominations gives to sustain its own missionary operations?*

Doubtless the means of the society would be augmented ten-fold were the benevolent and pious of the land well acquainted with the good already effected in and by our African settlements, and the far greater good to be anticipated from their multiplication and enlargement. The despatches of Governor Roberts, and his message to the colonial legislature, just received and published in our present number, embody facts and arguments for the prosecution of the enterprize, of persuasive and almost irresistible power. A free State of christians firmly planted upon the African coast is seen daily rising in improvement and character, revealing to many barbarous tribes the immense benefits of civilization and of our holy religion, inducing them to abandon the slave-trade, and their absurd and cruel superstitions—to open their villages to missionaries, to refer their differences for decision, and even the questions of peace and war, to the colonial government; and to gather, as the members of one family, in gladness and peace, under the protection of humane laws, and within the circle of christian sympathies and benevolence. Embosomed in this State are all the elements and seeds of a new social order and religious life for Africa. From it, as a seminary, will go forth, in a few years, hundreds, perhaps thousands of living teachers to preach the doctrines of political freedom and eternal life, to millions crushed by oppression, debased by vice, and in utter ignorance of the Revelations and hopes designed for our whole race by our ever blessed Savior, Christ. The wilderness and the solitary place shall be glad for them, and the desert shall rejoice and blossom as the rose. The mountains and the hills shall break forth before them into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

Let then the affections of all American christians gather around LIBERIA. Let the legislatures of the several States of our Republic, especially those of the south, extend to this colony their aid. Let the Congress of the Union encourage its progress by reasonable appropriations of money, and by affording to it adequate protection. Let the whole nation regard the scheme of African Colonization, as an enterprize entitled to the sympathy, the power, and the resources of the nation, to be energetically and perseveringly conducted onward until the universal reason of man shall acknowledge its wisdom, and the entire African race admire and experience its beneficence.

1. We respectfully submit then to the clergy and churches of every name, that nothing can be more important than their consent to consider and aid this cause on some Sabbath near the fourth of July.

2. To every State colonization society the propriety of immediately adopting a resolution to raise a specific amount of funds before the close of the year, and engaging immediately in measures necessary for carrying such resolution into effect.

3. To our friends, every where, the importance of organizing auxiliary societies in every county, town, and parish of the Union, each association thus organized agreeing to make an *annual remittance* to the Treasury of the society.

4. The importance of sending in to the legislatures of the several States and to the Congress of the United States, memorials, with as many signatures as can be obtained, calling upon these bodies to promote the cause of African colonization as of the highest interest to patriotism and humanity.

5. The vast responsibility resting upon every friend of God and man to show his decided concern to advance this enterprize by his donations and the exertion of his influence in its behalf.

6. And finally, the duty of all who love and fear God, to invoke his blessing and his grace to assist our humble endeavors, and to fulfil his glorious predictions of the redemption of the African people, whether exiles in other countries, or dwellers among the wild scenes and by the sunny fountains and in the dark forests of their ancient and ever glorious land.

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#### HIGHLY INTERESTING.

##### LATEST DESPATCHES FROM LIBERIA.

By the barque *Globe*, we have received very interesting despatches from Governor Roberts; also, his annual message to the Colonial Legislature. No one can peruse these papers without a conviction that the Almighty Ruler among the nations is preparing for mighty changes in the social, moral, and religious condition of the people of Africa. We here present to our readers a portion of these communications.

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GOVERNMENT HOUSE, MONROVIA,  
*February 2, 1843.*

SIR: The barque *Globe*, from Baltimore, with nineteen emigrants and a small invoice of merchandise, on account of the American Colonization Society, arrived at this port yesterday. The emigrants and freight are now being landed with all possible despatch.

Your letters of the 6th, 10th, and 12th December, are also received. I am gratified to find that the Executive Committee approve my general administration.

We are looking forward to the arrival of the American squadron on this coast with great interest. The presence of an American armed force in our vicinity will lend much, no doubt, to the advancement of the interests of the colony in many respects.

With regard to the condition of the currency of the colony, and my views as to what may be necessary to render it equal to the necessities of the people, I beg leave to state, briefly, that at present the currency of the colony is decidedly better than at any former period. The emission of bills on the credit of the Society, seems to work well. They circulate freely, and are received readily at par in exchange for foreign merchandise. To keep these bills at par, we have to be very particular to restrict our circulation to only a small amount above our ability to redeem them. These bills, as a matter of course, pass into the hands of colonial merchants, who exchange them with foreigners, to be redeemed at the colonial warehouse with specie, camwood, or ivory; consequently, we find considerable difficulty in keeping in circulation an amount adequate to the necessities of the colony. I shall write you again on this subject at some subsequent period. At present, nothing, in my opinion, can be done to increase the circulation.

The resolution of the Executive Committee, authorizing the purchase of Grand Sesters, &c., &c., shall be carried into effect just as soon as circumstances will permit. At what time I shall be able to visit that place is uncertain, having no conveyance at my command, and to hire a small vessel for that purpose will be too expensive. If, on the arrival of the American squadron, I can obtain a passage in some one of the vessels to that place, I shall certainly avail myself of the opportunity, and make sure of that tract of country, with such others as our means will allow us to purchase or can be secured by treaty.

The difficulties between the natives at and in the vicinity of Sinou and Blue Barra, are nearly settled. They are, at least, so far removed as to make it quite safe now to commence a settlement at the latter place. The Fishmen in the large town near Greenville, mentioned in a former communication, have consented to abandon the town, on condition that I will release the prisoners concerned in the murder of Shuman. This I think I shall do, as it is important to have them removed, but as yet have not announced it. I shall wait an opportunity to go down myself to settle the terms, to prevent future misunderstanding. I shall commence preparations immediately at Sinou and Blue Barra for the reception of the emigrants expected to sail from New Orleans in this month; and, feeling sensibly the weight of your remarks in reference to our operations in that quarter, I shall do all in my power to resuscitate the settlement already established there.

The machinery for the sugar-mill arrived just in time. I have, for the last month, been thinking and thinking how we should get off our present crop if the inclined wheel, or something in its stead, should not arrive in time. This season we shall make a handsome supply of sugar and molasses. By the by, you said nothing about the sample of sugar we sent you by the Hope. Shall we send more, or keep it for our own consumption?

The affidavits you mention shall be attended to and forwarded, with statistics of the births, deaths, health, trade, agriculture, education, &c., &c., in the colony, by the next conveyance.

The Legislative Council closed its session the 25th instant, having been engaged fourteen days in their deliberations. No material changes in the laws were made, nor many new ones added. You will find, sir, by the minutes of the Council, herewith transmitted, that the people are begin-



ning to feel the importance of education, and of encouraging farming in the colony. An act passed the Legislature this session appropriating moneys arising from licenses, court and military fines, for the support of public schools in the colony. This amount, of course, is inadequate to the demand; still, they are determined to do something—in fact, all they can, to further this great object. Another act provides assistance for farmers, by granting them a loan of \$5 per acre, &c., &c.

That the influence of the colony is rapidly extending, the following facts will show. The kings and chiefs of the entire Dey country, assembled in convention at King Bromley's town, on the St. Paul's river, just about the time of the session of the Council, to settle all difficulties, disputes, &c., &c., in that country, and to make laws for their future government. From this body, the Governor and Council received the enclosed invitation to meet with them and assist in their deliberations, declaring themselves entirely under the control of the laws of the colony. About the same time, I received the enclosed communication from Ballasada, a Golah chief, requesting permission to engage in a war with Gogomina, of Boporo. Both these chiefs, sometime in 1840, entered into a treaty with this Government, agreeing to give up the slave trade, to cease their native wars, and to refer all questions of dispute to the Governor of the colony for his decision. Ballasada is at the head of a very powerful tribe, and resides about eighty miles from the colony, in the interior. He complains that Gogomina has killed six of his boys, captured on their way to the beach, and begs earnestly to be permitted to commence a war. In the minutes of the Council you will find what disposition was made of this matter by that body. After the adjournment of the Council, I immediately despatched messengers to Ballasada, informing him that I would visit his town in the course of two or three weeks, and would have the "palaver talked;" and that, under no consideration, would he be permitted to make war until an effort had been made by me to settle the difficulty; intimating, at the same time, that we would see that justice be done to the parties, and that Gogomina should suffer the penalty if he had killed his boys. This was also communicated to Gogomina; when, yesterday, I received information that the boys were still alive and had been released by Gogomina, solely through the influence of the colony, and had returned to their family and friends. But for the colony, those six boys would certainly have been killed, and that whole district of country involved in bloody war. So much for colonization!

On the 13th instant, I propose leaving, on an exploring expedition up the St. Paul's river, and, if possible, open a communication between the colony and the Mandingoes and other tribes that are prevented from passing through the Boporo country to the settlements. If I can succeed in this, much good will result to the colony, and something known of the interior. The result of our tour will be communicated as early as possible after our return.

On the 15th January, we had a visit from Prince de Joinville. He spent most of the day at the Government house. We took a walk through town, visited the schools, &c., &c. I found him very communicative; talked of the encroachments by the English; inquired about the extent of our territory; thought it reasonable that we should have jurisdiction over all the territory between Cape Mount and Cape Palmas; was quite



surprised to see so many people dressed in European style and looking so well—better, he said, than in any of the colonies he had visited to windward; seemed to be much pleased with the general condition of things in the colony, and thought that the Colonization Society had succeeded to admiration, but could not understand why the United States Government would not take the colony under its patronage; thought commercial interest, if nothing else, would induce them to do something for the colony. On leaving, he expressed himself warmly in favor of the colony; regretted very much that salutes could not be exchanged. Being Sunday, we could not consent to answer the salute proposed by him. Said he should remember his visit to the colony with a great deal of pleasure.

The emigrants by the *Mariposa* are doing well—the McDonogh people especially, who have suffered very little. From Dr. Day you will receive a full report of the number of deaths, &c., &c., to date.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. J. ROBERTS.

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GOVERNMENT HOUSE, MONROVIA,

March 1, 1843.

SIR: After an absence of fifteen days, I returned to this place last night, much fatigued, and am to day quite unwell; but, finding the barque *Globe* about to sail for the United States, I could not allow the opportunity to pass without giving you some account, however brief, of my visit into the interior.

We left Monrovia on the 14th February, accompanied by Dr. Day, seven colonists, and fifteen Kroomen, for Millsburg. At Caldwell, where we stopped a few moments, we were joined by Mr. G. Moore and two native men. Early on the morning of the 15th, after having procured four more carriers and a guide, which we found absolutely necessary, we crossed the St. Paul's river, where we were joined by Messrs. Chase and Wilson, with seventeen colonists and natives, (carriers.) After getting breakfast at this place, and starting two men in a light canoe prepared for the occasion, up the stream, we moved off ourselves, in good spirits and full of anticipation. About ten miles above Millsburg we halted near the river, to take some refreshments and to look after our canoe, which had not been in sight for some time. We had not halted long before the canoe came up. They had been detained finding their way through the islands. Mr. Chase was very feeble. We concluded to move forward as fast as possible, instructing the men in the canoe to keep as near the east bank of the river as possible, so as not to be separated from us when we should halt for the night. We traveled rapidly until four o'clock, p. m., when we halted on the margin of a bold stream, two hundred yards wide, and twenty miles above Millsburg. We looked anxiously for the arrival of the canoe, that we might examine more thoroughly the bed of the river and the opposite bank. After waiting an hour, I was not a little surprised to see the canoe-men come walking into the camp from the woods. They reported the river, or rapids, a few miles below, impassable, therefore concluded to return to "Luch Hillock," (name given to the place where we halted for dinner,) and leave the canoe and follow us on foot. This tale I knew to be false, for we had traveled the whole distance on

the bank of the river, and only saw a single place that appeared to us at all difficult to pass, and that not by any means impassable. I was subsequently informed that the real cause of their refusing or declining to proceed further in the canoe was, that they were afraid of getting lost among the islands, and thereby be entirely separated from us. At first I regretted very much that they were so stupid as to leave the canoe, and was quite inclined to send them back for her. We, however, concluded to pursue our course along the river, making such observations as circumstances would admit. On the afternoon of the fifth day, we found ourselves opposite "Gobby," a Golah town, situated on a small island in the St. Paul's river. After some hesitation on the part of the natives, they consented to send their canoes to take us across. The old acting king was dreadfully alarmed, said he could not understand why so many Americans were traveling together in the country, and when he heard who I was, he was more astonished to think that the Governor should be that distance from home without carrying on war. After some conversation and many assurances of our friendly disposition, that we were merely traveling to examine the river, and to see the country, &c., &c., the old man became more reconciled, gave us his hand, and departed for a few moments, when he returned, dressed in his robe of royalty, presented us a fowl and a small basket of rice, in token of friendship, gave us a house for our accommodation, and made us quite welcome. Still he seemed to be shy. We conversed freely with him on the subject of trade, the course and extent of the river, native wars, religion, &c., &c. The old gentleman was not disposed to be very communicative; consequently, I could gain but little information on any of the subjects proposed. I learned, however, that the islands so frequently spoken of as abounding with camwood, were not so valuable as I had been led to believe them. Not willing to trust this information, I determined to visit them myself on Monday morning, and made the necessary arrangements for that purpose. We arrived at Gelby Saturday afternoon, and concluded to remain until Monday. Sunday afternoon, Messrs. Chase and Wilson preached to a very attentive congregation, the acting king, with most of his people, being present. The old gentleman was all attention, and seemed to take great interest in what was going on. He would give a nod of the head at almost every word uttered by the interpreter.

Monday morning early, Mr. Moore and myself, accompanied by three native guides from the town, set out in a large canoe for the camwood islands, which we soon reached, and then landed; and after walking nearly the whole length and breadth of the first, and over a considerable portion of the second, we returned quite satisfied as to the correctness of the information received from the old king. From the number of camwood stumps we saw standing in almost every direction, and the little forest of young trees just coming up, it is very certain that large quantities of camwood have been cut, in days gone by, from these islands; but, at present, most of the wood is brought, some fifty or one hundred miles further back, from the Pessa country. We set out immediately on our return to the town, for King Yando's, about fifteen miles further up the river. Yando is head king of the Golah tribe, and considered a powerful man. We had already despatched messengers to inform King Yando of our intention to visit his town, so that he might not

be taken by surprise, as was King ———, of Gelby. As we approached the town, some two or three hundred yards distant, we found they were making preparations to receive us. At that distance, the path leading to the town was cleared finely, so as to admit five or six persons to walk abreast. We were escorted into the barricade, (the only one in this country,) and formally introduced to his Majesty, who was seated in state, on a sofa of raised earth, gave us a hearty shake of the hand, and said he was glad to see us, "had heard my news long time, but now he saw me, and was glad that I had taken the trouble to come to visit his town and see his people." He continued: "This country be your country, all this people be your people countryman. No fit Merica man. So you be king for all countryman. Me be king no more. You be first king, cause you pass all king for country side." After this greeting, he showed us a house that we could occupy during our stay. We hastened at once to have it fitted up for our reception, and as soon as possible shifted our wet clothes, and returned to inform the king, that the object of our visit into his territory was to examine the river and country, to see him and his people, and to know if they were willing to continue friendly with the Americans; if so, I had come to make a treaty with them to that effect. I informed him, that he and his people must agree to abandon the slave-trade; to discontinue the use of the sassy-wood; engage in no war, except by permission from the colonial government; that all disputes between his people and other tribes, and between colonial traders and natives, must be referred to the colonial authorities for adjustment, &c. &c. He replied, that it was his wish, and the wish of his people, that a good understanding should be maintained, and that he would send messengers immediately to all his head men, requesting them to assemble at his town the next day, to consider the subject. The next day, about 10 o'clock, a. m. Ballasada, the principal war man of the Golah tribe, made his appearance; he entered the gate of the barracade at the head of some twenty or thirty armed warriors, with drums beating, horns blowing, dressed in a large robe, and stepping with all the majesty of a great monarch. Our quarters being near the gate, I was waiting at the door to see what was going on. On his entrance, recognizing me he stepped up to the door, shook us cordially by the hand, and expressed great pleasure in seeing us in his country. After greeting all the company and sitting awhile, he went off to make his respects to the king. Soon after Ballasada's arrival, the king sent to inform me that he and his headmen were ready to assemble in general council, and if I had no objection they would meet at my room. I gave my assent of course, and in a few moments we were all assembled. On my way out I was informed that some misunderstanding existed between king Yando and Ballasada, and that it would be advisable to settle, if possible, this difficulty before we entered upon the discussion of other matters, as harmony was absolutely necessary to our success. I mentioned the fact to Ballasada before the assembly met, and requested to be informed as to the truth of it; he very dexterously evaded the question by saying, "if the king had any thing in his haert against him, he could not help it, that he had nothing against the king, nor had the king told him that he had any thing against him." This is all I could get out of him on the subject; it was enough to convince me that all was not right. As soon as the assembly met I informed the king of what I

had heard, and requested to know of him if it was true. After some hesitation he inquired if Ballasada had told me this; I told him no, that Ballasada did not tell me, that I had questioned Ballasada on the subject, and repeated to him Ballasada's reply to me; Yando then replied, "well then, I have nothing against Balla." This settled, we proceeded to discuss the different subjects proposed by me the day before, and after considerable talk, they proposed to adjourn, to talk the subject over among themselves privately, to meet again in the afternoon.

Mr. Chase now requested to have some talk with them, on the subject of schools, and of establishing a mission-station at Yando's town; they told him he must wait until they had finished the business then under consideration, and retired. After an hour's absence, Yando sent a man to inform me that they had finished their deliberations, and would meet immediately to inform me of the result. I was soon with them, when Yando, after requiring some little explanations, said, "We have all agreed and are willing to sign a treaty embracing the subjects you propose." I requested that they would adjourn until after dinner, to allow me time to write out the instrument. Mr. Chase again urged his request, but they were not disposed to give him an answer, and so retired. After dinner we again assembled, when the enclosed instrument was duly executed, and the assembly dismissed.

The next day, Yando, in company with Messrs. Chase and Wilson, called to inform me that he had consented for Mr. C. to establish a school in his town. We set out about ten o'clock, a. m. for Ballasada's town, which place we reached in the afternoon of the same day. Ballasada received us very kindly, and gave us several little presents of fowls and rice. His town consists of some forty-eight houses, and about three hundred persons. At dark, he cautioned me "not to let any of my people stroll beyond the town, as persons had been seen frequently, and on one occasion had discharged a gun at him, lurking about the streets of the town, to get an opportunity to shoot him, and might mistake my people for some of his"—said, "that he had to keep up a strict patrol every night." He informed me that there did exist a misunderstanding between Yando and himself, and that Yando was afraid to acknowledge it before me; said that Yando did not like him, because he was a proper war man, and would not submit to every whim of the old man. This I found to be true. Ballasada is a very influential man, and as a warrior considered invincible, and the whole country look up to him to fight their battles in the event of war; Yando is jealous of his popularity, and says, "he is ambitious, and is endeavoring to make himself king." Ballasada proposes to leave his country and settle himself and people within the territorial limits of the colony, and requested that I would assign him a piece of land for that purpose; said if I would do so, he would arrange his business, and accompany me to the colony, to make the necessary arrangements. I declined giving him an answer until I could consider the subject, and inquire further into the particulars of the misunderstanding, and ascertain, if possible, the true motives that have led to this conclusion. I therefore requested him to meet me at Monrovia, as soon as convenient, when he should have my answer. I expect him here in a few days, and as I am fully persuaded that his principal object in leaving his own country, is to rid himself of the fears and apprehensions that constantly annoy him, I shall assign him a place on the



east bank of the St. Paul's, about fifteen miles above Millsburg, at the head of the rapids. On leaving Ballasada's town, we took a south-easterly direction, so as to visit most of the towns in the Golah country, and the principal towns in the Quea country. I should be glad to give you now a description of the country and towns we passed through, but it is impossible for the want of time. On the 24th, we reached Captain Sam's town, four days' journey into the interior, from Monrovia. Here we found a number of strangers from some five or six different tribes, viz: Mamboos, Pessa, Golah, Dey, Condoos, &c. This is one of the principal towns in the Quea country, and notorious as a great trading place. I had not been in the town long, when I received information that four or five country gentlemen would be glad to see me: I requested that they should be called, and after the usual salutations, they commenced by expressing great satisfaction in seeing me; said they had desired it long, but had never had an opportunity of doing so before. I asked them why they had not visited the Cape? They said they were afraid; that the people of this town had told them that if they carried their produce to the American settlements for sale, that the colonists would beat them, take their property away, and put them in jail, consequently they had always halted at this place, and put their property in the hands of the people of the town to sell for them, and that, in almost every instance, they had been robbed of one-half their goods. I inquired if they were there now for the purpose of trade? said they were; that they had brought considerable produce, and that two of them had been waiting four months, one three months, and the other two, two months, for their returns. Their object, they said, in seeing me, was to ascertain the truth in regard to the treatment they would receive at the settlements, if they should visit them for the purpose of trade, that they could not stand the impositions practised upon them by the natives in this country, and if they could not trade with the Americans, they must look for a market elsewhere. I soon convinced them of the cheat, and explained to them why the natives, in that region, endeavored to intimidate, and to prevent them from coming to the settlements to trade. They were exceedingly glad to have this matter explained, and to be informed that they could trade with the Americans on a footing of equality. They said, "this news would soon reach the long Bassa country, and that plenty of trade would now come to the colony." They are to visit Monrovia in a few weeks, to conclude a Treaty of Amity and Trade, which will no doubt be of considerable benefit to the colony.

I have traveled considerably in the United States, but have never seen any where a more beautiful country than the one we passed through: well timbered and watered, and the soil, I venture to assert, equal to any in the world. Our observations, with regard to the river, for the want of canoes, were not so satisfactory as we could have wished; I am, however, convinced, that, with a trifling expense, it may be made navigable for boats several hundred miles into the interior. As early as possible, I will transmit to you a copy of my journal, detailing all the particulars of our journey, which I think will be a little interesting.

I am, sir, most respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

REV. R. R. GURLEY,

J. J. ROBERTS.

*Secretary American Colonization Society,*

*Washington City, D. C.*



## TREATY OF AMITY AND ALLIANCE,

*Entered into this 22d day of February, A. D. 1843, between Joseph J. Roberts, Governor of the Commonwealth of Liberia, and Yando, Head King of the Golah country, and others, kings and headmen in the same country:*

WHEREAS, it is of great importance to the welfare and interests of the citizens of the Commonwealth of Liberia, and the natives of the country represented by their kings and headmen in this treaty, that there should be a mutual good understanding, and that the relations between them be friendly, tending thereby to establish peace among the several communities of the Golah, and between them and the surrounding tribes:

It is therefore agreed, this 22d of February, 1843, by and between the parties above named, that all matters of dispute, of whatsoever nature, between Liberians and Golahs, shall be referred to the Governor of the Commonwealth for adjustment; and all matters between the natives, that cannot be settled amicably by the king and his headmen, shall also be referred to the Governor. And all disputes arising between any of the Golah kings or headmen, and other tribes, that cannot be peaceably settled by and between them, shall also be referred to the Governor, who shall summon the party adverse to the Golahs, to meet the other party before him, to settle the matter in difference; and should the adverse party not appear, or admit the arbitration of the Governor, then the Governor shall give aid to the party so referring to him. And it is understood, that the path shall be open for trade and travel both ways, that the natives of the interior shall not be let or hindered from carrying their trade through the Golah country to the colony, and citizens of the colony shall not be molested in their peaceable journeying through the same country.

The party second to this instrument agree forever to banish the slave-trade from their country. The penalty for selling slaves shall be the same fixed by the laws of the colony; the person offending having the right of trial by jury, &c.

The party second to this instrument also agree to banish forever the trial or test by sassy-wood, or any other poisonous matters,—the penalty for this offence being the same fixed by the laws of the colony for murder and manslaughter, as the case may be.

The above matters being agreed and well understood between the parties, and the disposition for peace, and peaceable and friendly relations being mutual, the undersigned have this day set their several hands, in witness thereof.

In presence of  
S. CHASE,  
J. LAWRENCE DAY,  
B. R. WILSON,

J. J. ROBERTS,  
his  
YANDO X KING,  
mark.  
his  
BAUH X BAUH,  
mark.  
his  
BALLA X SADA.  
mark.

## GOV. ROBERTS' MESSAGE TO THE LEGISLATURE OF THE COLONY.

*To the Honorable**January 9th, 1843.*

## THE MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

GENTLEMEN :—On our present meeting it becomes my duty to invite your attention to the providential favors which our colony has experienced during the past year, in the unusual degree of health dispensed to its inhabitants, in the rich abundance with which the earth has rewarded the labors of the farmer, in the success that has attended the efforts of our enterprising merchants, in the extension of the influence of the colony, over the minds of the heathen tribes around us, and in the progress of general improvement favorable to the prosperity of our infant republic. With these blessings, have been necessarily mingled the inconveniences and vicissitudes incident to all new countries. Still there is just occasion for our mutual congratulations and thankfulness to that Beneficent Being who in his goodness has been pleased to favor us with such distinguished mercies.

Since the meeting of the Legislature in April last, nothing of importance has occurred to disturb our friendly relations with foreigners or with the natives of the country we inhabit. Peace and harmony prevail throughout our borders.

In compliance with a resolution of the Legislature at its last session, I transmitted to the Board of Directors of the American Colonization Society, all the facts that have come to my knowledge relative to the disputed claim of jurisdiction over certain territory in the vicinity of Grand Bassa—generally known as Bassa Cove, or Grand Bassa Point. Many of these facts had been transmitted prior to the date of that resolution. And soon after the adjournment of the Legislature, I received from the Board an elaborate communication, fully approving the measures adopted by the authorities here to sustain the laws of the Commonwealth, by compelling all persons within the jurisdiction of the colony to submit to the majesty of the laws. This communication will be laid before you, and will no doubt give you much satisfaction to find with what promptness the Board have taken up the subject, and their determination to sustain, as far as practicable, the institutions of the colony.

I hoped that this perplexing question had terminated with my correspondence with Captain Denman; in this, however, I was mistaken. In July last Capt. J. Oake, of Her Majesty's Sloop "Ferret," renewed the correspondence, by proposing a series of questions relative to the jurisdiction of the colony, to the seizure of certain property by the collector at Grand Bassa belonging to Mr. Dring, of the British brig "Ranger" and relative to the detention of a certain amount of money in the hands of Honorable Louis Sheridan, claimed by one D. Murrey. To all of these I responded, and I believe succeeded in satisfying Capt. Oake of our priority of claim to, and right of jurisdiction over, the territory in dispute, as also the justice of the seizure of Dring's goods, and the detention of the amount claimed by Murrey. This correspondence the Secretary will lay before you.

The subject of territorial limits, gentlemen, is becoming one of considerable importance, and deserves your deliberate and immediate consideration. Recent developments are sufficient to convince us that unless some speedy and efficient efforts are made to secure to the colony a greater extent of territory, emigration must cease, or soon we shall not have sufficient territory to carry on our agricultural pursuits. Foreign traders are still making encroachments upon us, and some of them have been guilty of the most unprincipled artifices to destroy our commerce and monopolize the trade. They use every means, however dishonorable, to prejudice the natives against the colony—prompting them to com-

omit depredations upon the property of colonial traders, speaking disrespectfully of the colonial government, and representing it as being unable to protect its citizens or enforce its laws.

Should this state of things continue, in a few years we shall find ourselves involved in unpleasant controversies with foreigners, and perhaps in a war with our neighbors. I know that this question has given birth to a variety of opinions and speculations with regard to the propriety of extending the jurisdiction of the colony along the coast, beyond our present possessions, which indeed are very limited. Some speak of the plan of lining the coast with christian settlements as visionary and impracticable. Some as being impolitic—unless we had the means of guarding and protecting them—otherwise, they say, we will be responsible for every outrage committed by the natives. Others insist that the settlers should push their way immediately into the interior, giving up all idea of ever extending the jurisdiction of the colony along the coast. Convinced, gentlemen, as I believe you are, and as every Liberian must be, of the great importance of acquiring a more extensive territory along the coast, it would be useless and consuming your time to no purpose, for me to enter into any arguments to prove the fallacy of the above objections, but would recommend that a proper representation from the citizens of Liberia, through the American Colonization Society, be made to the Governments of Great Britain and the United States, setting forth the importance to the colony of allowing its jurisdiction to extend from Grand Cape Mount to the Assinee River. I believe that just so soon as those governments can be made satisfied of the importance of settling christian colonies along this coast for the more effectual suppression of the slave trade, and for the extension of christianity among a heathen and barbarous people, they will not only grant us the privilege of acquiring jurisdiction over the territory named, but will protect us from the improper interference of those who are doing all they can do to injure and retard the progress of the colony.

In my official communication to the Board of Managers by the schooner "Herald," in April last, I made an allusion to a resolution that had just passed the Legislative Council, soliciting of the Society a loan of several thousand dollars to assist the colonial authorities to make such public improvements in the colony as our own resources would not warrant. In reply to this part of my letter, the Rev. R. R. Gurley, under date 20th June, says, "as the proceedings of the Council have not been transmitted, I will only say, that, with every disposition to meet such a proposition, without a larger increase of our resources, it will be out of our power. I shall not cease to hope that our income at no distant day will be such as to meet every reasonable wish of the people of the colony."

We, too, gentlemen, may hope and have great reason to expect, from recent movements in the United States, with regard to Colonization, that the day is not distant when the Society will be able to meet every reasonable wish of the people. For, notwithstanding that the deranged and depressed condition of the finances of the United States have operated most powerfully against the Society, they have nevertheless shared a goodly degree of public patronage. Confidence in the utility, the magnitude and grandeur of the scheme is increasing throughout the Union.

At a Colonization convention held in the city of Washington a few months ago, were adopted measures of high importance to the colonization cause; its friends are resolved to prosecute it with new vigor and to seek from the general Government of the United States countenance and protection, and from the State Governments co-operation and support. The humane and pious every where are coming forward to their aid, and no doubt very

soon the resources of the Society will be so augmented as to enable them to carry on more successfully and vigorously their operations, both of removing emigrants to Liberia, of opening the resources of the country, and in making such public improvements in the colony as may be necessary for our protection and convenience.

I regret, gentlemen, to inform you that I have not been able to carry into effect an important resolution of the last Council authorizing me to have compiled and published in one volume all the statute laws of the Commonwealth. Feeling sensibly the importance of such a compilation, soon after the adjournment of the Legislature I made several efforts to have the work attended to, but without success. Every application to gentlemen whom I considered competent to discharge such duties was refused, upon the ground that their private engagements were such as to prevent them, without serious injury to their own business, especially at that season of the year, from giving that attention to the work that would insure success. Finding the year so far spent before I could procure the services of competent persons, and thinking that the present Legislature would more than likely make some necessary and important alterations in the present code, I concluded to defer the compilation until after the present session. I would here call your attention, gentlemen, to the propriety of expunging, altering, or so amending the 4th section of "a bill for the regulation of towns and villages in this commonwealth," as to make it the duty of the Governor or of the Governor and Council to appoint, from time to time, commissioners, with an equitable consideration, to carry into effect the provisions of that act, instead of the commissioners appointed in the 6th section of the "Act to provide regulations for the counties and villages in the commonwealth of Liberia," passed in August and September, 1839. And further, that it shall be the duty of the commissioners so appointed to see that at stated times the streets in the towns and villages are cleared of underbrush and noxious weeds; and that in the event of persons refusing or neglecting to clear the street contiguous to their respective lots, then and in that case it shall be the duty of the said commissioners to proceed forthwith to clear up any such neglected streets, to be paid out of any funds belonging to the Commonwealth—to be refunded in such way and manner as you may think proper to provide. Without entering into any arguments to prove to you, who must be equally convinced of the fact, the deleterious effects that the growth of noxious weeds in our streets must have upon the health of the community. I will only remark that under the present arrangements the responsibility imposed by the 5th section of the article referred to, has rendered it most difficult to procure the services of proper persons, (especially without an adequate compensation) to undertake the duties of the office; consequently, in this respect, our towns and villages have been shamefully neglected.

I would call your attention to another subject that deserves consideration, and which must be provided for if we expect to maintain the purity of our institutions. I allude to the great difficulty with which public officers are able to collect the fines and forfeitures imposed by the courts in the colony, and the indifference with which civil and military orders are sometimes treated by a certain portion of our community. According to our present system, most military delinquencies, and many offences against the municipal laws of the commonwealth, are punishable only by fines; and as our laws allow no imprisonment for debt, a certain class of individuals, regardless of consequences, (having nothing upon which the officer can lay his hands, of which some of them make their boast,) wantonly refuse or neglect to do those duties required by law, and that good and responsible citizens are compelled to perform, thereby throwing the burthen of certain public duties, that should be borne by all, on a part of the community. One or two instances



have occurred in the colony when public officers have been defied. I am happy to state, however, that that resistance was confined to a very few, and of the class of individuals referred to above, viz: persons without property, consequently, regardless of consequences. It is not unfrequent to hear them say when brought up before a tribunal to answer for any conduct: "Well, fine me and then get the money when and where you can. I have nothing you can seize—you can't sell my house, nor have I more personal chattels than the law protects from seizure." Merchants and others suffer from this very class of individuals. How frequently have I heard the bitter complaints of citizens with regard to the shameful conduct of such persons, whom they have been induced to credit? Something, gentlemen, must be done to correct this evil, or its demoralizing influence will be felt severely at no distant day.

Opposed as I am to the many changes and alterations generally made in the statute laws of the commonwealth at each session of the legislature, I am almost disposed to say nothing further on this subject; but I cannot forbear recommending to your consideration the propriety of one more amendment, viz: that of so altering or amending "a bill to prevent frauds in the management of intestate and other estates," passed August and September, 1839, as to provide that persons assuming the responsibility of settling estates shall be required to give bond and security for the faithful performance of their duty as are required of administrators in the 4th section of said Act; and further, that all executors, administrators, or others having the management of estates, shall be compelled at each session of the probate court to render an account in writing of their doings in relation to any estate or property of which they may have had the management. And further, at present we have no statute laws regulating the apportionment of widows' dowers: but have been conforming to a custom in the colony, how obtained I know not, of allowing the widow one third of all the real estate, whether solvent or insolvent. This right, should the estate be insolvent, has been questioned; therefore, to avoid future misunderstanding, I would recommend that some definite regulation be made with regard to it.

The subject of common schools, gentlemen, is one that deserves your attention. Its importance is well known to you, and I believe will have your consideration. For, if we expect, as I have no doubt all of you do, that Liberia is destined at some future day to take a stand among the nations of the earth, we must educate our children: the rising generation must be informed; for on them depends the erection of the fabric, the foundation of which you are now commencing. A right education alone can raise man to his true and proper dignity, and without it we must ever remain cast out and degraded. Our peculiar situation demands that we too should make a strong and vigorous effort to improve our own minds, if we expect to maintain and hand down to posterity unimpaired the purity of our republican institutions. You know, gentlemen, that in an ignorant community republicanism will soon degenerate into a wretched democracy which must end in anarchy. The condition of our race too in other parts of the world, and especially of the inhabitants of this heathen country, should be motives to rouse us to greater diligence, that we may show to the world that the African race is as susceptible of mental improvement as any other. At present there are schools established in several of our towns and villages; these, however, are under the patronage and control of various religious institutions in America, and may be discontinued at any moment. It therefore becomes us to make an effort to assist ourselves in this great work of improvement, that we may be prepared for any emergency. We can do something and should do something. Let us



put our shoulders to the wheel, and when we have done all that we can do, I pledge myself there will be no lack of aid. The sympathies of the benevolent every where are enlisted in our favor, especially with regard to this subject; and when it is known abroad that we appreciate learning, and are doing all in our power to obtain it and cannot succeed, then, and not till then, shall we have the efficient aid of our friends abroad, and be able to establish permanent schools for the education of our youth. On this subject I scarcely know, gentlemen, what course to recommend to your consideration. An Act regulating common schools, passed August and September, 1839, makes every provision necessary for the government of schools, but a very inadequate provision for their maintenance. The 3d section of that Act provides that the sum of three dollars per year be paid by all those who may be admitted into these schools, or by their parents or guardians, if they be able—the said amount to be paid to the school committee or any person appointed by them, of course for the support of the school. The 8th section provides, “that all persons shall be bound by law to send their children to school, provided their ages vary from five to twelve years; and whomsoever fails to comply with the above regulation shall without excuse be compelled to pay a fine of three dollars, said fine to go into the hands of the school committee for the benefit of the school.” Now, gentlemen, this is the only provision for the maintenance of public schools. How then could it be expected that competent teachers could be procured; especially when in no one settlement are to be found more than thirty or forty children whose parents or guardians are able to pay even a small amount towards their tuition? No, under such circumstances teachers could not be procured, nor have we been able the past year to supply even those settlements that are entirely destitute of schools with a public teacher; nor shall we be able until the commonwealth will take the responsibility and provide more effectually for the payment of teachers.

Another subject to which I would call your attention, is the demoralizing influence that tipling shops must have in any community, and especially in a community like ours. At such places are always to be found the idle and the worthless, who are not backward, for the sake of a dram, in enticing the young and the thoughtless, who, after a few visits and a few glasses, like their seducers, become slaves to the intoxicating cup, and soon a reproach to their families and to society. I feel that it will be altogether unnecessary for me to enter into any arguments to prove to you, gentlemen, who are so well informed on this subject, its baneful effects upon the prosperity of a people. Some, no doubt, will curl the lip and say, that we have no cause of alarm in Liberia—that a more temperate people exists no where—that gentlemen here touch the glass very cautiously, and that drinking to excess is confined to a few solitary exceptions in the whole commonwealth. I admit all this to be true, but does it plead any thing in favor of using ardent spirits? certainly not, for if the people are so temperate as not to indulge the use of it at all, then of course we have no use for the article, and every one will say, let it go, and if the people are only so temperate as to indulge in occasional glasses, and as all will admit the danger of its increasing influence if used at all, then away with it, before we are called to experience more of its pernicious consequences. Touch not, taste not, handle not, the liquid poison. The fact is, gentlemen, there are establishments in Liberia—I am happy, however, to say their number is rapidly diminishing—where the poison is still dealt out in small quantities, to the injury not only of colonists—some few of whom will not give up the practice of taking it at stated times—but to natives, and to foreigners whose health is materially injured in this climate by its frequent use. I would therefore

recommend that the duty on ardent spirits, &c., &c., be considerably increased, and that the special license to retailers be not less than one hundred dollars.

Notwithstanding the losses that some of our merchants have sustained by ship-wrecks, for the want of more experienced navigators, and the great competition with foreigners, increased by an improper interference with our trade on their part, the commerce of the colony is steadily increasing, though at present, for causes unknown to us, there seems to be a cessation of trade. Our merchants are not discouraged by these difficulties, but are determined to prosecute the trade along the coast with renewed vigor. During the past year three new vessels have been launched at Monrovia, one at Bassa cove, two, which were foreign built, purchased by colonists, and there are now on the stocks to be launched soon, three others; one at Monrovia, one at Edina, and one at Greenville. I am informed it is contemplated by one or two gentlemen, to build and fit a vessel this year capable of performing a voyage across the Atlantic.

The want of adequate means and sufficient protection will for some time prevent our merchants from competing successfully with foreign traders, and from making the coast trade as lucrative as, under other circumstances, it would be not only to us, but also to foreign traders. Many of them have adopted a system of crediting the chiefs and headmen along the coast to a large amount—one half of which they can never collect—endeavouring by this means to obtain their influence, and to prejudice them against colonial traders, who are not willing, if they were able, to waste their property in this way; and wherever colonial traders are to be found, they pay extravagant prices for produce. If to monopolize the trade were the only objects of these men, their conduct might not be considered so reprehensible. But such is not the case. Their malignant and wicked designs extend further than that, some of which have come to my knowledge, and at a proper time shall be exposed. I beg you to observe, gentlemen, that I do not wish to be understood to include all traders that visit this part of the coast as being inimical to the colony. No! there are some honorable exceptions among the traders, of almost all nations, who are courteous and gentlemanly, and who seem to take a deep interest in the prosperity of these colonies, founded, as they know them to have been, by the hand of benevolence and christian philanthropy. But to return: If to monopolize the trade were the only object of most of these traders, I think it would not be difficult to convince them, as are some already, that, taking into consideration the losses they suffer by robbery, bad debts, protracted voyages, loss of life, &c., &c., if the foreign trade was confined to the settlements, they would be able to purchase their cargoes here at a much cheaper rate than at present; and then the colonists, who are better acquainted with the African trade, (which acquaintance alone has enabled them to compete in any degree with other traders,) could regulate the prices, and thereby extend the influence of the colony, and more effectually carry out the design of the American Colonization Society, in civilizing the heathen of this country. As it is, gentlemen, nothing but untiring perseverance on the part of our merchants will enable them to maintain their standing: this, I am persuaded, they will not fail to use.

Information has reached me, that some time in March last, one D. Murrey, a British trader, notwithstanding he had been repeatedly admonished by the authorities not to do so, landed a quantity of merchandize to the natives at Fish Town, in the county of Grand Bassa, contrary to the maritime regulations of this commonwealth. From certain considerations, arising from a misunderstanding with regard to that territory, and my aversion to any collision with British traders, I have been induced to exercise an almost un-

warrantable degree of forbearance. The native residents, too, of that place are guilty of a breach of faith, by not complying with certain treaty stipulations, entered into with this government. It now remains, gentlemen, for you to determine whether the majesty of the laws shall be maintained, and what course shall be pursued by the executive with regard to these important subjects.

Another branch of our political economy, on which depends our present comforts and future greatness, I am sorry to say, is not increasing so rapidly as I could wish to see it. Agriculture in the colony is not prosecuted with that vigor, by a great many of the settlers, which its importance demands. I know that farmers in Liberia have to contend with many disadvantages, for the want of working animals, &c., &c.; still there is no just reason for despondency. The soil is good, and capable of producing abundant harvests: this will be admitted by all, and in every instance where individuals have perseveringly given the business a fair trial, it has not failed to yield them a handsome reward. The greatest hindrance to successful agriculture in Liberia, is the ruinous desire of most of our people to become wealthy in a very short time; therefore, they are not willing to trust to a slow but sure means of becoming so, but prefer to employ their little capital in speculations, become traders, and in nine cases out of ten, from their unacquaintance with a system of which they have had no previous knowledge, in a few years they become bankrupts; then, as a last resort, without sufficient means to give them a fair start, they go upon their farms, where they have to plod and dig for several years before their circumstances are again easy and comfortable. I am happy to state, however, from personal observation, that this practice of general trading is losing ground. Though the crops among the natives last year, in a great degree failed, the colonists, especially in the upper settlements, were generally free from want, and in many instances were able to supply the neighboring natives. The past season has been one of rejoicing among the farmers. Rice crops, especially, have been abundant, and I rejoice to find that the people throughout the commonwealth are becoming awake to their true interests, and convinced that the future prosperity and independence of the colony depend upon the agricultural resources of the country. Several gentlemen, both in this and Bassa country, are turning their attention to this subject, and are establishing coffee and sugar estates, though, at present, on a small scale. The experiment has proved successful, and established, beyond a doubt, the fact, that farmers in Liberia, if industrious, frugal, and persevering, may become not only independent, but rich. Therefore, to encourage this manifest spirit of agriculture in the colony, I would recommend that some immunity be granted to such agriculturists as will cultivate certain articles in certain quantities.

Public improvements in the colony have not advanced so rapidly as I had anticipated. This, in a great degree, has been owing to the difficulty of procuring proper materials. I have the pleasure, however, to inform you, that, notwithstanding these difficulties, we have succeeded in finishing, and have now in successful operation, a light house on Cape Mesurado. This, I believe, is acknowledged by all strangers that have visited the colony since its erection to be a very important improvement. Of the court-house for this county, I can only report, that every effort has been made to drive forward the work, but for reasons above stated it has advanced slowly. We are now encouraged, however, to hope that in two or three months, this building will be completed, or at least so far advanced as to be used.

In G. B. county, through the agency of I. Sheridan, Esq., we have succeeded in thoroughly repairing the court-house and jail, which have been for some time in a dilapidated condition.

The roads in the vicinity of some of the settlements have been somewhat improved, especially near New Georgia. The citizens of that place are doing themselves much credit. They have nearly succeeded in opening a ditch around that settlement, which will not only add much to the health of the village, but will soon more than repay the inhabitants by the great advantage it will give them in raising live stock.

The defence of the colony is as adequate as our pecuniary circumstances will admit, though perhaps not as much so as our position requires, especially in our interior settlements. The past year I have had mounted on light carriages, two small brass field-pieces, which, added to the large cannon previously mounted, makes a pretty formidable appearance, and no doubt will contribute much to secure to the colony, for some time, an undisturbed state of tranquility; as in my opinion nothing is better calculated to maintain a good understanding with our neighbors than a state of overt military preparation.

I am happy to inform you, gentlemen, that the revenue of the commonwealth is steadily increasing. From official returns to the 31st December, I have been able to make up the following summary statements of the transactions at the colonial Treasury, for the year ending 31st December, 1842. The accounts in detail will be laid before you. The Treasurer for the county of Messurado acknowledges the receipt of the following amounts, viz:

From the Collector of customs, P. M.,—\$2,940 93, duty on imports—\$450 50, anchorage duty—\$57, light duty—\$90 93, tonnage duty, C. V.

From the Sheriff of the county.—\$22 20, court fines, and—\$37 06, Military fines.

From the Clerk of the Court of C. P.—\$50, for auction license—\$120 80, for commission license—\$119 25, for special license, and—\$144 69, for retail license. Making an amount total of \$4,027 36.

The following have been the disbursements, viz: For public buildings, including \$500 paid on account of the light house, \$2,250—for the session of the legislature in 1842, \$262—for the judiciary, \$370—for prisoners, \$350—for the defence of the colony, \$200—for signal master and light house on Cape Messurado, \$165—for elections, \$32—for printing, \$39—and for contingencies, \$33 12—making \$3,698 12; being \$329 24 less than the receipts; which added to \$858 80, balance in hands of Treasurer, 31st Dec., 1841, will leave a balance in the Treasury this day of \$1,188 04.

The following are the amounts collected in the county of Grand Bassa, viz:

By the Collector for the port of Marshall.—Duty on imports, \$230.

By the Collector for the ports of Edina and Bassa Cove.—Duty on imports, \$726 17—anchorage duty, \$12.

By the Sheriff of the county.—Court fines, \$79—tax-fee, \$10.

By the Clerk of the Court of C. P.—For commission license, \$125—special license, \$50—retail license, \$144—making an amount total of \$1,376 17.

The following amounts have been disbursed, viz: For public buildings, \$249,50—for the legislature, \$62,50—judiciary, \$131—for the defence of the colony, \$48—incidental expenses, \$96; making an amount total of \$587—leaving a balance in favor of the commonwealth this day, of \$789,17.

These, gentlemen, are the matters respecting the state of the commonwealth which I have thought of importance to be submitted to your consideration. Some others, no doubt, will arise in the course of your deliberations, that may require equal attention. I am happy, however, in this opportunity of committing the arduous affairs of our government to the collected wisdom of this people. To you, then, gentlemen, who are charged with



the function of legislation, we look with encouragement for that guidance and support which may enable us to steer with safety the vessel in which we are embarked.

The prudence and temperance of your discussions within these walls will no doubt promote that conciliation so necessary for the advancement of our political and religious institutions. That all should be satisfied with any one order of things is not to be expected. But I indulge the hope that a great majority of our citizens will cordially concur, in honest and disinterested efforts, which have for their object the general good of the people, the maintenance of peace with our neighbors, and order and obedience to the laws by the citizens of the commonwealth, to establish principles and practices of administration favorable to the security of liberty and property, and to the furtherance of civilization and christianity among the heathen tribes around us.

J. J. ROBERTS.

*Government House, Jan. 9th, 1843.*

#### ANNUAL MEETING OF THE NEW-YORK STATE COLONIZATION SOCIETY.

THE anniversary meeting of this Society took place in New York city, on the evening of the 10th May, 1843, at the Dutch church, in Lafayette Place. We are indebted for reports of the principal facts connected with this meeting, and a condensed account of the report of the society and the speeches on the occasion, to the New York Express, and the Commercial Advertiser. The spacious interior of this beautiful and ample church was well filled, by a most intelligent audience.

The chair was taken by Anson G. Phelps, Esq., President of the Society.

The following ode, written for the occasion, by Mrs. Mary W. Thompson, was beautifully sung by a fine select choir.

Time was, when round Liberia's coast  
Dark Superstition held her sway;  
While a relentless, cruel host,  
Tore friends from kindred, far away:  
And Ethiop groan'd—for 'neath her sky,  
There beamed no light to glad the eye.

*Philanthropy and Christian zeal*  
Have hand in hand for Afric joined:  
They seek her safety and her weal;  
Her bruised heart they heal and bind:  
They bid her raise her down-cast eye—  
And HOPE now gilds that Western sky.

In shaded glen, and fragrant bowers,  
Liberia's children bend the knee;  
Around them bloom fair Freedom's flowers;  
Cheerful they sing, "sweet Liberty!"  
And while their voices rend the sky,  
"O bless the Christian's God!" they cry.

Thou, who the Prophet touch'd with fire,  
And gave his lips the words he spake,  
Do Thou our love and zeal inspire,  
And aid the cause we undertake.  
Joy, then resounding through the skies,  
Shall hail complete this enterprize.

The Rev. Mr. Bigelow read a portion of the Scripture, (the parable of the talents) and the Divine blessing was fervently invoked by the Rev. Dr. Brownlee.



The annual report, read by Mr. Dodge, gave a cheering account of the prospects of the cause and the colony. In no former year had the interests of the settlements of Liberia been more steadily and decidedly advancing than during the last. A just and impressive tribute was paid to the eminent virtues and worth of Dr. PROUDFIT, the late venerable secretary of the society. The report alluded to the loss sustained by the death of Governor Buchanan, to the success of the present colonial government, to the powerful and extending influences of the society favorable to emancipation, and to its necessities of augmented resources to enable it to aid the numerous applicants for emigration.

The Rev. Dr. DeWitt moved the acceptance of the report, and in very just and pathetic terms held up to the veneration and love of the audience the character and virtues of the lamented Secretary of the Society, Dr. PROUDFIT. Said Dr. DeWitt:

"Let but the mists of prejudice be swept away by the light of truth, and by the spread of facts, and this cause must have its perfect success.

"This society was the fruit of christian philanthropy. Its projectors said, 'Let us go forth and build;' and they arose and erected their structure. It was a great work in which they and we were and are engaged. And Africa is to reap its fruits. Let us on, then, in that glorious work, undismayed and never discouraged, to the end.

"Mr. President, we have been reminded by the report just read, that that beloved and venerable countenance, which was wont to cheer us in these meetings, is now forever withdrawn from us. And from this reflection what a lesson do we derive! As we look back upon the long list of those who have been friends and supporters of this holy enterprise, what encouragement do we receive from the examples of a Mills, a Buchanan, an Ashmun, and a Proudfit, in the prosecution of the work in which we are engaged!

"In early life Dr. Proudfit was installed over the associate church in Salem, where he remained as pastor forty years. He labored efficiently for the cause of missions and the establishment of churches in our own country. He labored zealously also for the cause of education. His name was attached to every good work. Wherever he went the memory of what he said and did was preserved. He was zealously attached to this cause, and gave it his dying breath.

"Mr. President, as I dwell upon the memory of our late venerable secretary and long tried friend, I know not how I can describe him so well as in the words of inspiration: he was, indeed, 'a good man, full of faith, and the Holy Ghost.'

"Sir, I speak it with sound discretion and a perfect remembrance:—I know no man who filled a wider sphere in the great work of christian benevolence and philanthropy, than the late Dr. Proudfit." And here the eloquent divine uttered a most able panegyric upon his departed friend, accompanied by a sketch of his eventful and useful career. In the course of it, he said, "Queen Mary of Scots, sir, feared the prayers of John Knox; and well may we fear for our society lacking the prayers of Alexander Proudfit!"

Dr. DeWitt then read a letter from Professor Woods, of Andover, touching the character and life of Dr. Proudfit. He had a letter also from Dr. Miller, paying a tribute to the memory of this good man. The report and resolution were then adopted.

The Rev. M. Kennedy of Wilmington, Del., rose and offered the following resolution;

*Resolved*, That the influence of American colonization of the colored race upon the shores of Africa, in encouraging general emancipation, and in demonstrating the capacity of the colored man for political freedom and self-government, is daily becoming more powerful and apparent.

The speaker remarked that these were highly important points, in the operation of the colonization scheme. Whatever difference there may be on the subjects of immediate emancipation and gradual colonization, there is, he thought, one pervading sentiment in the minds of all enlightened men in this country; and that is, the impossibility that all the slaves in America shall not one day be free. Living under the direct influence of these free institutions, it must not be, it cannot be, otherwise. And though there are many who imagine that, because of the ill-advised interference of some rash men, slavery is an evil that must be tolerated, because it cannot be got rid of, and who thus become, in some sort, apologists for slavery, yet the general feeling of the country is in favor of ultimate emancipation. I am aware, said the speaker, that this sentiment is denied by those who are fond of looking on this country, (in this relation,) with prejudice, especially on the other side of the ocean. But I believe, sir, that a dispassionate examination of the subject will satisfactorily show that, in this respect, our country has been grossly misrepresented. Far be it from me to disparage British philanthropy.

Great Britain never acquired greater honor and renown, sir, not even when she struck down the scourge of Europe upon the fields of Waterloo, than when she gave freedom to her West India slaves. But, while I accord to her all the credit in this regard she can claim, I must be allowed, also, to vindicate my own country from her aspersions.

In the year 1713, by a treaty between Great Britain and Spain, it was agreed that the latter should import into the British North American provinces 144,000 African slaves.

In the year 1772, the burgesses of Virginia united in a petition to the British Government for the removal of the statutory inhibition against the colonists' interfering with the infernal traffic in slaves; and when, in 1787, Congress provided for its overthrow, and were for fixing a time for its final cessation, Granville Sharpe knocked in vain at the doors of Parliament, urging its co-operation without effect, in so good a work. One of the complaints against the British Government, in the American Declaration of Independence, was, that England had kept up the slave-trade against the wishes and remonstrances of the colonists. I do aver, sir, that we are not a step behind the chiefest and most forward nation in the world, in this regard. I do from my soul believe that it is a sentiment that lies deep in the American heart,—gradual, but sure and universal emancipation!

But it is objected that we have accomplished so little during so long a term of existence, as a society. Sir, I have the honor of being pastor of a flourishing church in one of the loveliest towns in America. At the expiration of the first 34 years of its existence, it numbered a hundred members; it took 17 years more to gain another 100, and this was at the rate of about 4 per annum. It has now existed 76 years, and has had 42 ministers, and now numbers 750 communicants; and yet, sir, at first, in the earliest history of the church, it only added some 4 a year to its numbers. Now, sir, the opponents of the colonization scheme, on the ground of its not having done every thing since its formation, would have shut up that little church, and closed that door to christian advancement and religious enlightenment.

The Rev. speaker alluded to another objection to colonization, based upon the assumption that the colored men of our country are opposed and will continue to be opposed to this society. He could not credit this. He believed there was a nobler and more generous sentiment in the breast of the descendant from Africa; that he aspired to genuine freedom and the honor and glory of his race.

He believed that this association was one of the most efficient of missionary enterprises, and that it was carrying light into the benighted corners of the earth,—the light, not only of civil and political, but of religious and christian liberty,—the light which illuminated the dark plains of Bethlehem, while the voices of angels were heard chanting—"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth, peace, good will unto men!"

John Thompson, Esq., of Poughkeepsie, rose to second the resolution just offered.

He expressed himself as warmly and decidedly opposed to slavery; and notwithstanding all the foreign flippancy of imported note-takers upon the subject, who filled their books with forged advertisements, and lying exaggerations, he believed that such was the general sentiment of the country. This society he deemed (unlike the abolition associations,) to be like the burning bush upon Horeb, which burned, but consumed not; and he had no doubt it would triumph in its good work, over foreign interference on the one hand, and domestic faction on the other.

The people of the slave-holding States were just coming to a knowledge of the true sentiments of the North upon this subject: they were getting undeceived upon this matter of political abolition. It is true, they ought never so have been taken in: but now they will be all the wiser for the deception, and will fear no more the growth of that impotent faction which having courted on all sides, and deceived all sides, is now despised on all sides! (Applause.) He expressed the hope that the South, having thus become enlightened on this subject, would relax in some degree the severer bonds they may have been forced to fasten on the slave, and will engage in some active prospective efforts in the good cause of emancipation.

Mr. Thompson expatiated on the well-known dangers of the immediate removal of the pressure of restraint upon freedom, and upon the tendency of liberty to licentiousness, under such circumstances.

This was the natural and inevitable result of immediate emancipation, while the colonization scheme was far different in its effects. It went upon the plan of making every man it liberates and colonizes a good man, and one who could be a benefactor to his kind.

And the speaker closed by alluding to some of the same topics as did the gentleman who introduced the resolution under consideration, such as the tendency of colonization to spread civil and religious light in Africa, its value as a missionary enterprise, &c

The resolution was then unanimously adopted.

Rev. Mr. Gurley, from Washington, was next introduced to the meeting. He said he felt well persuaded that the time had now arrived, when, though private contributions were still to be solicited, the society should individually and collectively remember that the great work of African colonization was to be consummated, as originally designed, by the action of the State and General Governments.

The father of the enterprise never believed that it could be accomplished by private exertions, and without the co-operation of the treasure of the country. From its incipency, it had been regarded as a grand national work, to be carried into existence by the combined power of the States and the Nation, as a nation.

It had been hoped that, as a private work, its practicability and utility could be demonstrated to such an extent as to warrant Congress and the State Legislatures in embarking actively and effectively in its prosecution. As a private scheme, unaided by Government, it had been singularly successful, and a colony had been planted, demonstrating its advantages and inviting the general co-operation of the different governments. By demonstrating, in its practical operation, to the eye of the nation, its manifold advantages, the time had now come when that co-operation should be zealously sought by all true friends of colonization.

Mr. G. said that he would not undertake to predict the destiny of the colored race. He had never assumed to do so. As well might he pretend to foretell the destiny of this country. The fate of empires was in the hands of a higher power. It was no part of the duty or design of colonizationists to promulgate the doctrine of abolition. They were by no means prepared to go all lengths with a party who were as much distinguished by their being opposed to law, and order, and government, as to slavery. One of the greatest errors of the time, he thought, was the tendency of certain agitators to estimate human rights by their own estimate of the requirements of the divine law, instead of taking the latter, in its adaptation to all the diversified aspects and interests of human society; and in making it, with such a view, the true standard of action.

As well might we insist upon prescribing one universal medicine to all diseases, or clothing all men alike, in all weathers, because the human body is prone to illness, and demands a covering, as to attempt to make all conditions of society square with a single abstract theory of right and wrong.

Mr. G. would offer a resolution, approving of the late Treaty of Washington, so far as it touched upon the slave-trade on the coast of Africa, and suggesting, as a yet better means of attaining the desired end, the establishment of a legitimate trade between that coast and our own country. This must be done by affording the means of carrying into full perfection the plan of this scheme of colonization.

He then gave a history of the question of suppressing the slave-trade by international arrangement: and adverted to the fact that this matter of "search," in connexion with this great object, had once been well-nigh settled and arranged, between this government and Europe, but was defeated in the Senate, even after a treaty had been formed between Mr. Adams, (then Secretary of State,) and Mr. Canning, for this purpose. The consequence of this failure had been the subsequent efforts to produce a similar understanding between the two nations, and thus had this question of the right of search been left open, and kept open to the date of the treaty of Washington.

And now, argued Mr. G., the danger is, that they will be protected by our flag, who have no right to its protection, in instances where, but for this jealousy of the right of visit, on the part of England, that evil could occur. In this posture of affairs, the true policy, in his opinion, was to make the slave-trade piracy by law of all nations, and to give every nation the same rights with regard to slavers as international law has already given them with regard to pirates. Thus would they be driven, effectually, from the great highway of nations, and that accursed traffic would forever cease.

Mr. Gurley expressed the hope, that, at its next session, Congress would prosecute to a definite termination the design partially accomplished at the last;—that of obtaining a settlement of the question of relation between the Liberian colonies and this government. To that end, he earnestly invited petitions to Congress, and demanded why this mode of attaining their object should be monopolized by the abolitionists. This association, unlike theirs, was friendly to the continuance and perpetuity of the Union: it was designed to link with the growth of this country the progress of Protestant christianity in Africa.

He concluded with an earnest appeal to the people of New-York, and to the country generally, for their active aid in the good work,—and urged the clergy to awake their congregations to a sense of their duties in this regard.

Upon resuming his seat, Mr. Gurley was greeted with long-continued applause.

Col. Stone, of this city, then arose and said he found himself in the position of the youngest daughter in a family,—not from any beauty he claimed to possess,—but be-

cause that young lady was obliged to do all the work of the household, to darn the stockings, and mend the ruffles, and all that,—and yet was obliged to wait till all the rest were married off, before she could get a chance! [Laugh.]

After so much eloquence had been expended, on the part of so many renowned and learned gentlemen, here, at the last moment, a paper had been put into his hands, requesting him to second this resolution of his friend Gurley.

But it was now ten o'clock, and full time for all honest people to be at home; and it was not his intention to keep so many bright eyes open, as those he saw beaming before him, when they were in need of that refreshment which would make them yet brighter for the morrow. [Sensation among the ladies.] He therefore should occupy but a very few moments, although he had a good deal to say.

Col. Stone then proceeded to remark that he had prepared and laid on the table certain tabular statements of statistics, going to show that the slave-trade was never much more rife, upon the shores of Africa, than it was at that moment. And he alluded, in this connexion, to the admirable arrangement of the late treaty stipulations as striking a fatal blow to the longer continuance of this enormous evil.

But all this would not be enough. Colonists were wanted, and colonies too. The whole coast from Sierra Leone to the Cape of Good Hope should be colonized, and a line of populous and thriving towns, along that whole coast, should be erected and populated. By this means alone was this infernal traffic to be effectually suppressed. And to this end, the societies of this and kindred associations should be unremittingly exerted.

The Colonel then paid his respects to the abolition societies, of whom, he said, he would not speak harshly, as he ever made it a rule to tread lightly over the ashes of the dead! [Applause and laughter.] There had been their annual meeting held this week, in our city, and "our brother Abby" [Kelly] had been figuring there, with the well known Garrison at her apron-strings. This society had done nothing, and could do nothing, while the colonization society was gaining ground, tangibly, every year. What has the latter done? It has studded the African coast with thriving towns and smiling villages, the homes of happy hearts and prosperous families, and erected a barrier to the slave-trade more powerful than any other that had ever been devised.

And, on the other hand,—for I see I am in for a speech, after all!, said Col. S.—what have the abolitionists, in all this ten years of their existence, accomplished? They promised us, ten years ago, that they would not leave a slave in manacles upon these shores. Have they kept their promise? To be sure they have aided in stealing, here and there, a slave or two from their masters, and have got them off to Canada; and all this they could have done without making such a mighty noise about it! [A laugh.]

And this is one of their greatest accomplishments. They stole a little girl from her mistress, and had her up, on *habeas corpus*, before one of the courts, to prove her right to be free, in Massachusetts. So, after the poor little thing had been nearly frightened to death by her examination before this grave tribunal, and after all the pleadings in the case had been gone through with, the learned judge, (I don't know whether he wore a wig or not,) addressed the trembling child, and told her she was free,—free to go wherever she pleased! Whereupon the poor little creature exclaimed, with frank and irrepressible joy, "*Oh! then I'll go back to my mistress again!*"

The narration of this illustration of the practical operation of abolitionism, was received by the auditory with shouts of laughter and applause, in which the clergy joined heartily.

The interesting and amusing speech of the Colonel having been brought to a close, the resolution seconded by him, as offered by Mr. Gurley, was unanimously adopted, and the benediction being pronounced by Rev. Dr. Bangs, the meeting was adjourned.

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*From the Hartford Daily Courant.*

#### COLONIZATION MEETING AT HARTFORD, CONN.

At a meeting of the friends of African colonization held in Hartford, on Friday, the 19th May 1843, it was thought expedient to re-organize the State Society, and adopt such other measures as would serve to awaken a more lively interest in this benevolent enterprise. Rev. Mr. Gurley, Secretary of the American Colonization Society, was



present and addressed the meeting. The following persons, under the new organization, were chosen officers of the State Colonization Society :

Hon. ROGER M. SHERMAN, *President*.

Prof. BENJAMIN SILLIMAN, LL. D.,

Rt. Rev. T. C. BROWNELL, S. T. D., LL. D.,

Rev. THOMAS H. GALLAUDET,

SETH TERRY, Esq.,

Rev. LEONARD BACON, D. D.

Rev. WILLIAM W. TURNER, *Secretary*.

CHARLES SEYMOUR, *Treasurer*.

} *Vice Presidents.*

*Managers*—James B. Hosmer, Henry White, Seth P. Beers, Charles W. Rockwell, Thomas W. Williams, Henry Ward, Ebenezer Flower, Gurdon Robins, Austin Dunham, William T. Lee, William B. Ely, Elihu Geer, John H. Goodwin, William N. Matson, and Zephaniah Preston.

*Executive Committee*—Rev. Gurdon Robins, James B. Hosmer, Esq., Austin Dunham, Esq.

At a meeting of the Board of Managers, held May 20th, the following votes were passed :

*Voted*, That this society will endeavor to raise \$5,000 within one year from the present time.

*Voted*, That Rev. Samuel Cornelius be employed as the agent of this Board to form auxiliary societies in this State, and to collect funds.

#### ADDRESS

*Of the Managers of the Connecticut State Colonization Society, to their fellow-citizens.*

The Managers of the Colonization Society of the State of Connecticut, now re-organized, with the hope of securing a more general co-operation in this great enterprise from the people of every christian name, and from every town in the State, beg leave to represent to their fellow-citizens, that in their view the time has arrived when it is important, in a high degree, to unite all the benevolent in exertions to strengthen the Parent Society, and enable it to enlarge the territory, improve the condition, and increase by emigration the numbers of Liberia.

It is deemed unnecessary to enter into any defence of the principles, or argument in favor of the beneficence of the scheme. The colony of Liberia is evidently a civilized and christian colony, politically well organized and well governed, powerfully hostile, and efficiently and extensively destructive to the slave-trade ; with schools, churches, and all the varied and humane institutions of a free, religious commonwealth ; possessing the elements of growth and improvements, and destined, under the fostering care of American philanthropy, to spread widely abroad among the native African people the beauty and advantages of our arts, language, liberty, and religion. Hundreds of barbarians have already been converted through its influence from their wild and savage practices and superstitions to the knowledge and worship of the living God. Many thousands of these people have renounced the slave-trade, and sought the protection and submitted to the government of the colony. Seminaries of learning exist in which both the colonial and native youth are preparing to become teachers and missionaries among the heathen. A disposition among our brethren at the South to prepare their slaves for freedom, and to emancipate them, with the view of their voluntary establishment in this colony, is increasing, and may be expected more and more to increase.

The advantages to be derived to the colony and to foreign nations, and above all to Africa herself, from the development of her agricultural and commercial resources, are becoming more and more manifest. No other means for her redemption and renovation can be so adapted to arouse the mind, civilize the manners, elevate the whole character of her vast population, relieve them from their intolerable miseries, and gather into the family of christian nations her descendants returning to her shores, animated by the spirit and hopes of christianity, and resolved to propagate its doctrines everywhere, and not to rest until that entire quarter of the world shall receive, acknowledge, and rejoice in these blessings.

The cause is commended to the favor and support of all our fellow-citizens. Of its benevolence and grandeur the managers have no doubt. They trust the clergy and churches of every denomination will sustain it with vigor. Though now dependant upon the bounty of individuals, the Board does not forget its claims to patronage from both the State and National Governments. The effectual interposition of these Powers is

only to be anticipated from the influence of popular opinion, and when their aid to this great work alike of patriotism and philanthropy shall be demanded by the general sentiment of the country, it will not be denied.

In former years, special efforts have been made by ministers and congregations to increase its resources on the day consecrated to grateful recollections of our own National Independence, or on some sabbath near that day; and the Board hope that a custom so appropriate and useful will be renewed throughout the State. A ship is now preparing to sail with many liberated slaves to Liberia. Without the liberality of the friends of the cause, its operations cannot be successfully conducted. The managers doubt not that the citizens of this State will evince towards this scheme of comprehensive and far-reaching benevolence, a measure of good will, not exceeded by any portion of the Union.

In making this call upon their fellow-citizens, the managers of the State Colonization Society would cordially commend to the public regard, the Rev. Samuel Cornelius, as their duly authorized agent, in whom both the Parent and State Societies have the highest confidence, and who has long proved himself worthy of it by his indefatigable and successful labors. He will not only give the necessary information and make the collections, but also endeavor to organize auxiliary societies in the several towns which he may visit.

In behalf of the Board of Managers,

WM. W. TURNER, *Secretary.*

*From the Maryland Colonization Journal*

### LATEST FROM CAPE PALMAS.

(ARRIVAL OF THE BARQUE GLOBE OUT AND HOME.)

By the Globe we have received dispatches from the colony as late as February 21st, by which we learn that everything is moving on in the colony in the same old quiet fashion. Gov. Russwurm, under the above date, writes: "Since my last despatches by the Atlanta, nothing of interest has occurred to disturb the even tenor of our way. Your colonists are making themselves more comfortable every day. With the employment given by the Rev. J. Kelly, of the Catholic mission, the Protestant Episcopal, the Methodist missions, and your agent, there has not been an idler in the colony, and, consequently, no hungry ones. I am glad to receive, among the passengers by the Globe, our old friends Cornish, Tubman, and Bordley.

"The coffee plants are doing well, and the success which has crowned Mr. D. Wilson's labors, encourages others to persevere. Our cotton at the public farm looks better than any I have yet seen. Our crop of corn also turned out better than that of any previous year: the seed was obtained from Cape Coast.

"We stand much in need of school books and stationery for the use of the schools and the agency. Besides our free school No. 1, we have a tri-weekly sewing school in operation. School No. 1 has averaged about 20 scholars the past year."

Some half dozen other letters were received from old colonists and the newly arrived emigrants. Those of the former have ceased to speak of satisfaction or dissatisfaction—they are generally on business, and of course uninteresting to our readers—but their tone is the best recommendation the colony can have. The new emigrants, as usual, are delighted at getting on shore in a free country after a long sea voyage. They express an abundance of thanks to the Colonization Society, and all that sort of thing. 'Tis amusing to look into some ill-directed letters which have been sent to this office, and which we have opened in order to find out where to send them. We concluded they must contain bank notes or something of the kind—but no. We find on opening, a scrap of an old dress pattern or shirting, indented so as to match some piece left with a dear friend behind them, which is to serve as a guarantee that the letter actually came from them, and was not forged by Georgia slave-dealers. Poor people! we hope the time will come when they will know their real friends. We have packed up all these *pledges*, and re-directed to the best of our ability their uncouth envelopes.

It becomes our painful duty to announce to our readers the death of Capt. James Lauder and wife and one child, which occurred on their outward passage—a fatality which never before attended an expedition to the colony. It will be recollected that Lauder was a prominent and promising individual from St. Mary's county, who embarked with his

large family in the Globe. We congratulated ourselves much in obtaining a man of his character as an emigrant, and indulged in pleasing anticipations of his usefulness in the colony; but our hopes have been blasted, and we must view it as one of the "partial evils which work the universal good," and humbly submit to the decrees of Providence. Yet we cannot but ask, why should Lauder, of all others, be taken away?

Dr. McGill writes, that "he stuck a nail in his foot, and, although the wound healed up, erysipitatus inflammation ensued, which could not be subdued, and he died of gangrene."

"The old gentleman, in his last moments, declared that he 'did not regret having started; that he felt more willing to die on his way to Africa than to live longer in America.' He was buried on shore the day we arrived." We can imagine nothing more noble and affecting than this last declaration of Lauder's. We fancy we can see him elevated on the deck of the old barque as she slowly approaches the African shore, fanned by the light air of the tropics—we see his eye brighten as he discerns, through the dim hazy outline of the coast, the lofty palm rising in grandeur above the surrounding forest—we see his chest heave convulsive, as he inhales the balmy breezes of his ancestral land—'tis then, with hands and eyes upraised, he murmurs, "Now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace!"

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*From the Liberia Herald.*

#### SPECIMEN OF LIBERIAN POETRY.

THE following stanzas were written by the Editor of the *Liberia Herald*, the Rev. Hilary Teage, to be sung on the celebration of the deliverance of the colony from extreme danger, in the war with numerous barbarian tribes, on the 1st of December, 1822.

TUNE.—"Bermondsey."

Land of the mighty Dead!  
Here Science once display'd,  
And Art, their charms:  
Here awful Pharaohs sway'd  
Great nations who obey'd;  
Here distant monarchs laid  
Their vanquish'd arms.

They hold us in survey—  
They cheer us on our way—  
They loud proclaim,  
From pyramidal hall—  
From Carnac's sculptur'd wall—  
From Thebes they loudly call—  
"Retake your fame!"

"All hail Liberia—hail!  
Arise and now prevail  
O'er all thy foes;  
In truth and righteousness—  
In all the arts of peace—  
Advance, and still increase,  
Though hosts oppose."

At the loud call we rise  
And press towards the prize,  
In glory's race;

All redolent of fame,  
The land to which we came,  
We'll breathe the inspiring flame—  
And onward press.

Here Liberty shall dwell,  
Here Justice shall prevail;  
Religion here:  
To this fair Virtue's dome  
Meek Innocence may come,  
And find a peaceful home,  
And know no fear.

Oppression's cursed yoke,  
By freemen shall be broke,—  
In dust be laid;  
The soul erect and free,  
Here evermore shall be:  
To none we'll bend the knee  
But nature's God.

Proud Science here shall rear  
Her monuments, to bear  
With deathless tongue:  
By nations yet unborn  
Her glories shall be known,  
And Art her tribute join,  
The praise prolong.

Commerce shall lift her head,  
To auspicious gales shall spread  
Expanded wing;  
From India's spicy land,  
From Europe's rock-bound strand,  
From Peru's golden sand  
Her tribute bring.

Oh Lord! we look to Thee—  
To Thee for help we flee.  
Lord hear our prayer:  
In righteousness arise,  
Scatter our enemies,  
Their hellish plots surprise  
And drive them far.

O happy people they,  
Who Israel's God obey,  
Whose Lord is God:  
They shall be blest indeed,  
From anxious cares be freed,  
And for them is decreed  
A large reward.



## OFFICE OF THE COLONIZATION SOCIETY.

Washington, April 20, 1843.

REVEREND AND DEAR SIR:—The Executive Committee of the American Colonization Society earnestly invite your attention to its benevolent enterprise, and trust that you will bring its merits and its wants to the consideration of the people of your charge. There is everything to encourage christian efforts for the benefit of Africa. The concurrence of many great events, tending to open that country to the influences of civilization and christianity, and to render the colonies of Liberia, if duly encouraged, most powerful means of suppressing the slave-trade and bringing the inhabitants of that afflicted quarter of the earth into the family of enlightened nations, urges the disciples of Christ, of every name, to co-operate with the movements of Providence, and strengthen her returning and regenerated children in building up and extending on her shores a republican and religious commonwealth. Such a commonwealth, the Plymouth of Africa, is already founded; its settlements along nearly three hundred miles of coast, reclaimed through their influence from the horrors of the slave-trade, smile with promise; their schools, churches, courts, and legislature, are evidences of a new social order and moral state, and it is only necessary to multiply and enlarge them, to diffuse the most precious light and blessings to a large portion of the human family, hitherto destitute, and exposed to cruel wrongs and intolerable calamities. It is now of vital consequence to increase the numbers and enlarge the territories of Liberia, so as to place beyond danger the ultimate ascendancy upon that coast of the principles of free government and the christian faith. No other nation has advantages equal to ours, for the attainment of these great objects. It is easy for the churches of this land to render the settlements of Liberia not only attractive asylums for all such of her descendants, from the United States, as may desire to share in their own government, and to secure for themselves and their posterity an independent national existence in circumstances most favorable for its growth and prosperity, but also seminaries, in which, thousands of missionaries may be educated, and from which they may go forth for the conversion of all Africa to the knowledge and worship of the true God. The committee, then, would respectfully call upon you, sir, and upon your people, to assist in this work of unsurpassed benevolence; and as it was deemed essential, at the annual meeting of the society, to raise, for its operations the present year, at least forty thousand dollars, they pray you, either immediately, on the fourth of July, or on some Sabbath near that day, to submit the subject to your congregation and solicit their contributions to the society.

We beg leave to accompany this letter with a brief form of a constitution for an auxiliary society, in the hope that such an association may be immediately organized in your community, and continue permanently to co-operate in this enterprise. When we consider how much has been done, and at how small expense, [the whole amount contributed by individuals, during the twenty-five years since the origin of the society, to the enterprise, having but little exceeded \$700,000,] that many prosperous settlements of a free and christian people now adorn a line of coast for ages abandoned to ignorance, superstition, and crime;—that the worship of the true God is here celebrated, and the way prepared for the victories of his word among countless barbarians—what christian can hesitate to aid the work?

*A word of specific objects for which funds are demanded.*

1. First, to secure the entire line of the African coast from Cape Mount to Cape Palmas, about three hundred miles. A more extended line of coast would be desirable, but this is indispensable, as difficulties have already arisen within these limits between the colonial government and English traders; and as some twenty tracts have already been purchased by the society on this line, establishments of other nations upon it must occasion perpetual jealousies and disturbances. It is believed this object can be effected at an expense not exceeding \$15,000 or \$20,000.

2. To open a road to the camwood regions of the interior, thus vastly increasing the commerce and resources of the colony, and extending its influence among the native tribes. This may be effected at a cost of from \$5,000 to \$10,000.

3. To aid emigration. An expedition is to sail immediately from New Orleans, with sixty-nine liberated slaves, of the estate of the late Mrs. Read, of Mississippi, the remainder (there being one hundred and thirty in all,) awaiting another expedition.

Eighteen slaves in Flemingsburg, Kentucky, to whom freedom was bequeathed by their late master, are expected, should means be secured, to accompany this expedition. They are liable to be sold if not sent before the close of the year.

In Richmond county, Va., are twelve slaves, to whom freedom has been left on condition of their emigration to Liberia within a certain time. They have earned a part of the money necessary to defray their expenses, and need assistance to enable them to complete their redemption in due time.

An aged gentleman in Tennessee desires to send sixty-eight slaves to the colony, worth probably in the market from twenty to thirty thousand dollars.

A minister of the gospel in Virginia wishes to liberate nine slaves, but feels unable to defray the expenses of their emigration to Liberia, where they have friends, and to which they greatly desire to go.

A wealthy gentleman in South Carolina has long been preparing his slaves for freedom in the colony, and with much success, and hopes to send them thither the present year. Many in Tennessee and Virginia, entertain similar sentiments to his, and many free persons of color in those States and elsewhere, desire to emigrate. Among the latter number is an intelligent Baptist preacher in western New York, who only waits for means to remove with a company of his friends.

For the means of effecting these objects, we must place much reliance upon the benevolence and exertions of individuals. Those who may be denied the happiness of giving money, may enjoy that of securing donations from others entrusted by Providence with wealth. Influence, as well as knowledge, is power. The wise exertion of such influence by individuals in uniting the opinions and charities of christians for the promotion of great and good designs, is a mighty means of beneficence in the Kingdom of Providence. Should each one who may peruse this letter resolve to secure one hundred, fifty, or even twenty dollars, for the objects above specified, their accomplishments would, with the blessing of Heaven, be rendered certain, and, to the African race, the benefit would be incalculable.

In the view of the committee, every possible reason exists for special and liberal exertions on the part of all the friends of Africa.

I remain, Reverend and dear sir,

With the greatest respect,

Your friend and servant,

R. R. GURLEY, *Secretary.*

N. B. Every clergyman who receives this letter is respectfully requested, should he approve of the object, to read it to his congregation, and solicit, in its behalf, their contributions.

#### FORM OF A CONSTITUTION.

1st. This society shall be called the ———— Society, and shall be auxiliary to the American Colonization Society.

2d. The payment annually, by an individual, of any amount, shall constitute membership of this society; and those who pay one dollar annually, to constitute themselves members of the American Society, (or of a State society should such exist,) or thirty dollars at one time to constitute themselves life members of said society, shall become by such payment members, or life members of this society.

3d. The officers of this society shall be a President, Vice Presidents, Secretary and Treasurer, to be elected annually, and to continue in office till their successors are appointed. Besides performing the duties implied in these offices, they shall constitute a Board of Managers, to direct the affairs of the society.

4th. The officers of the society shall annually appoint collectors, assigning to them their respective districts; and it shall be the duty of said collectors, within one month, or as soon as practicable, after the annual meeting of the society, to solicit and receive donations within their districts, and pay over the amount to the treasurer of the society.

5th. The funds of the society, after defraying its expenses, shall be paid over to the treasurer of the American Society, to be expended in colonizing, upon the coast of Africa, free persons of color, with their own consent.

## CHEERING PROSPECTS.

THE recent public meetings in New York, Philadelphia, Hartford, Wilmington, (Del.,) and elsewhere, give evidence of a rapidly increasing interest in the society and promise of increased resources. The New York Society has expressed by resolution its purpose to raise ten thousand dollars for the cause in that State during the year, and the Connecticut Society to raise five thousand. A State colonization society has just been established at Wilmington, Delaware. We have encouraging tidings from Virginia. Many of the clergy and congregations (we wish we could say all,) will make special efforts to increase the funds of the society, on or about the fourth of July. We thank God and take courage.

THE barque Renown will immediately sail from Norfolk, with more than one hundred emigrants, a large number of the liberated slaves from the estate of the late Mrs. Read, of Mississippi. The gentlemen to whom these servants were bequeathed by this excellent lady, (Dr. Duncan and the Rev. Mr. Buller,) have shown a noble purpose of benevolence towards these people, and a desire to afford them all the means in their power of comfortable settlement in the colony.

CONTRIBUTIONS to, and receipts by, the American Colonization Society, from the 20th of April to the 20th of May, 1843.

## MAINE.

Bath, Colonization Society, per Jonathan Hyde, Treasurer, \$90, Jonathan Hyde, Esq., to constitute himself a life member of the Parent Society, \$30, - - - - - 120 00

## NEW HAMPSHIRE.

By Captain George Barker, Agent:—  
 Nashua, J. Crombie, - - - - - 1 00  
 Amherst, S. Melendy, - - - - - 1 00  
 Mt. Vernon, Dea. J. A. Starrett, \$2, Rev. B. Smith, \$1, - - - 3 00  
 Peterboro', Rev. A. Abbot, - - - - - 3 50  
 Rindge, B. J. Breed, \$2, Mrs. Cutler, 50 cts., - - - - - 2 50  
 New Ipswich, Mrs. Ainsworth, \$1 50, George Bartlett, \$1, Mrs. Everett, \$3, Miss Parker, 25 cts., J. Bartlett, \$2, Charles Hastings, \$1, - 8 75 19 75

## NEW JERSEY.

Princeton, By a friend of the Society, per Mrs. J. J. Green, - - - 5 00

## VIRGINIA.

Per F. Knight, Esq.,  
 Fredericksburg, Dr. William Brown, - - - - - 3 00  
 Petersburg, J. Metcalf, Esq., \$5, Robert Ritchie, \$3 50, - - - 8 50  
 Richmond, Miss Louisa M. Dupey, - - - - - 5 00  
 Kenawha, St. John's church, Kenawha parish, per P. J. A. Lewis, - 5 00  
 Big Lick, Rev. M. Powers, for '41, an. sub., Nathan Burwell, for '40, an. sub., each \$10, (per Thomas W. Micon, Esq.,) - - - 20 00 41 50

## OHIO.

Granville, Sereno Wright, - - - - - 5 00

## ILLINOIS.

Princeton, Rev. A. B. Church, - - - - - 1 00

## KENTUCKY.

Per Rev. Samuel Williams.  
 Harrodsburg, \$44, Shelbyville, \$23, Frankfort, \$13, - - - 80 00  
 Total Contributions, - - - - - \$272 25









### RESOLUTIONS CONCERNING THE AFRICAN REPOSITORY.

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*Resolved*,—That it is expedient to publish hereafter, at the same price, in a pamphlet form of thirty-two pages, with a handsome cover, the African Repository.

*Resolved*,—That the Executive Committee entirely approve of the plan of supplying without cost, the African Repository to the Ministers of all denominations in the United States, or such as may be disposed to co-operate in the benevolent objects of the Society, provided the funds for this purpose can be obtained, and that the plan be submitted to the several State Societies, and other friends of the cause, with estimates of the expense, and inviting them to give donations for this specific purpose.

*Resolved*,—That the agents of this Society be informed of the views of the Committee on this subject, and instructed to receive contributions for the proposed object.

*Resolved*,—That this plan be submitted by letter to some of the distinguished friends of the Society in different States, and that they be requested to promote the object.

✧ All communications for the African Repository should be addressed to the Editor, R. R. GURLEY, Secretary of the Society.

✧ Donations and collections to be transmitted to the Rev. WILLIAM McLAIN, Treasurer of the Society.

THOSE who wish to make bequests to the American Colonization Society, can best secure their object by using the following form, viz: "I give and bequeath the sum of — dollars to A. B., *in trust* for the American Colonization Society," &c.

The African Repository will hereafter be issued regularly on the 1st of every month, from this city, at \$1 50 per annum, payable in advance. The work is now owned by the American Colonization Society. The profits are wholly devoted to the cause of Colonization.

The African Repository is sent gratuitously—

To every Auxiliary Society which makes an annual remittance to the American Colonization Society.

To every clergyman who takes up annually a collection to aid the American Colonization Society.

To every person obtaining three new subscribers, and remitting the money.

To every individual who contributes annually ten dollars or more to the funds of the American Colonization Society.

To every life-member of the American Colonization Society, for three years after he becomes such.

Clergymen who have taken collections in their churches the past year, but who have not received the Repository, will please forward their names and their residences.

Persons who wish to discontinue the Repository, are requested to give the town, county, and state, in which they reside.

Officers of Auxiliary Societies will please act as agents in receiving subscriptions to the Repository, and forward subscribers' names and the money received, by mail, through their Postmaster.

Secretaries of Auxiliary Societies will please forward their names and residences, that they may be furnished with such documents and papers as may be on hand for distribution.

The payment of thirty dollars constitutes a person a life-member of the American Colonization Society, and entitles him to a certificate of life-membership.

Persons who have not received certificates of life-membership to which they are entitled, will please give information by mail.

Mr. C. W. JAMES of Cincinnati, Ohio, is authorized, by himself, or by deputies authorized by him, to receive moneys due the African Repository from the Subscribers in the states of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Missouri, Michigan, Iowa and Wisconsin, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi and Tennessee. The accounts have been placed in his hands, and those indebted are respectfully requested to be prepared by the time they are called upon, as we are in great need of the money.